

substantially parallel planes on either end of hook anchor 464. Also included in hook hanger 462 is vertical-movement retainer 468. Vertical-movement retainer 468 is constructed from bar stock and is positioned with each end connected to leg member 474 and 476 respectively.

Hook anchor 464 may be offset at an angle from a horizontal axis of hook hanger 462 to better accommodate a hook under tension securing a load on a truck. Leg members 474 and 476 function both as a frame to support hook anchor 464 and together as a horizontal-movement retainer to prevent substantial horizontal movement of a hook with respect to hook anchor 464.

Vertical-movement retainer 468 includes surface 469 which functions to block substantial vertical movement of a hook with respect to hook anchor 464. Hook anchor 464 and vertical-movement retainer 468 are positioned such that sufficient clearance is provided to allow easy accessibility of a hook to hook anchor 464, and easy manual insertion and removal of a hook from hook anchor 464 upon appropriate manipulation of the hook. Other profiles are possible as would be appreciated by one of ordinary skill in the art.

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**In the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Kindly amend claim 1 as follows:

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1. A tie down system for use with a vehicle, said tie down system comprising:  
at least one mounting track associated with at least one side of a cargo carrying area;  
at least one tie down member having one end fixed in a position on an opposing side of said at least one side, said tie down member having a terminal end with a hook member;  
at least one hook hanger, said at least one hook hanger adjustably positioned in association

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with the mounting track at a location to allow the hook member to be positively retained in association with <sup>(hook hanger)</sup> the anchor assembly over said cargo carrying area; said hook hanger comprising a mounting bracket <sup>(52)</sup> having a <sup>(62)</sup> mounting profile conforming to said at least one mounting track, and a hook anchor <sup>(63)</sup> having a channel for slidably receiving said hook member, and a retaining member <sup>(64)</sup> selectively positioned such that said hook member will not disengage from said channel.

Please cancel claim 4 without bias or prejudice.

Kindly amend claim 6 as follows:

Sub 6. A tie down system for a cargo control system, comprising:  
a body member <sup>(65)</sup> secured in a desired position relative to at least one tie down member of a cargo control system, the tie down member having a hook member <sup>(66)</sup> associated therewith; and  
said body member comprising a retention channel <sup>(67)</sup> for insertion of at least a portion of said hook member of the tie down member, wherein said retention channel prevents substantially vertically oriented disengagement of said hook member regardless of the tension applied to said tie down member.

Please cancel claim 7 without bias or prejudice.

Kindly amend claim 8 as follows:

Al Sub 8. The tie down system of claim 6, wherein said body member has a mounting structure <sup>(68)</sup> for selective mounting at a desired position.

Please cancel claims 9 and 10 without bias or prejudice.

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

ag 11. The tie down system of claim 6, further comprising a hook retainer which substantially maintains the horizontal position of said hook relative to said retention channel.

Kindly cancel claim 12 without bias or prejudice.

Please amend claim 13 as follows:

Sub 13. The tie down system of claim 1, wherein said hook hanger comprises:  
a horizontal-movement retainer capable of preventing substantial horizontal movement of said hook member relative to said body member.

ag 14. [Kindly amend claim 14 as follows:]

14. The tie down system of claim 11, wherein said hook retainer comprises a retaining bar which is selectively positionable to prevent movement of said hook member out of engagement with said retention channel.

[Please amend claim 15 as follows:]

15. The tie down system of claim 13 wherein said hook retainer is positionable between a hook mounting position and a hook retaining position.

Kindly cancel claims 16 and 17 without bias or prejudice.

Please amend claim 18 as follows:

Sub 18. The tie down system of claim 1, wherein said hook hanger comprises a first wall positioned in spaced apart relationship to said hook anchor to form said channel adjacent said hook anchor in which a portion of said hook member is received and a second wall extending toward said hook anchor to form an opening, wherein said second wall is positioned to contact

all ~~the hook~~ prior to release from the hook anchor to maintain engagement of the hook member with the hook hanger.

Please add the following new claims:

- Sub 7  
all 19. The tie down system of claim 14, wherein said hook retainer comprises first and second retainer leg members, said first retainer leg member effectively restricting substantial horizontal movement of said hook in one horizontal direction, and said second retainer leg member effectively restricting substantial horizontal movement of said hook in the opposite horizontal direction.
20. The tie down system of claim 14, wherein said hook retainer is lockable in a hook retaining position.